



Department for Children and Young People

For the attention of Head Teachers of Primary and Special Schools and the PRU, and ICT Subject Leaders

CC
LSES Primary Team and Early Years Team,
Martin Dear, Steve Baxter, Harry Langston,
Andreas Burt

Date: 10 November 2008
Your Ref:
Our Ref: JB/aet
DI Ref: B300-3-449-08
Path: W:\SCHOOLS\2-CTS\PRIMARY\2008\B300-3-449-08\JB.DOC
Enquiries to: Jo Briscoombe
Tel: 01454 863349
Fax: 01454 868967
E-mail: jo.briscombe@southglos.gov.uk

Dear Colleague

South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) Resources

The purpose of this letter is to update you on information and resources being made available from the SWGfL.

SW-ITched On Newsletter

I have attached a copy of the Summer 08 SW-ITched On newsletter which I have just received and which contains information on the following:

- Flashmeeting – a video conferencing tool for use by individuals or small groups
- Merlin update – update on the Merlin online platform
- E-safety – feedback from the Byron independent review on the risks to children from exposure to material on the internet
- Filtering update – including information on the new filter lists for Social Networking sites which can be enabled or not
- Autumn dates for your diary

We recommend that colleagues register online to receive updates automatically by visiting http://www.swgfl.org.uk/news_and_events/maillinglist.asp.

Making the Most of ULearn

ULearn is the extended product developed from Infomapper which provides high quality Ordnance Survey mapping along with detailed aerial photography for the South West Grid for Learning area. It also provides historical mapping for the South West. I have enclosed a flyer providing information about this facility which is provided free as part of your subscription to the SWGfL. To begin to take advantage of this resource please visit <http://www.ulearn.infomapper.com> and click on register – 14 day free trial button. As a member of SWGfL you be automatically given a full licence.

Therese Gillespie, Director for Children and Young People, South Gloucestershire Council, Bowling Hill, Chipping Sodbury, South Gloucestershire BS37 6JX Tel: (01454) 868008 Fax: (01454) 863263



2004-2005
Supporting Social Care Workers



2007-2008
Healthy Schools



2007-2008
School Improvement



2008-2009
Care Matters:
Improving the Outcomes
for Children in Care



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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National Education Network Catalogue

I have enclosed a copy of the new National Education Network catalogue. This outlines of all the free resources that are being provided by the various grids for learning which make up the National Education Network. Delegates who attended the Best Practice Forum meetings on 12th November 2008 have already received a copy and have had the opportunity to explore some of these online resources. Among others they include:

- The Gallery – searchable site containing images, audio files and video clips which have been moderated so provide a safe place for pupils to search for copyright cleared media. Schools can upload their own resources.
- Big Day Out – modelling, control and simulation site for key stage 1 pupils created by the SWGfL
- Wiltshire History Quest – provides the opportunity to engage with interactive museum artefacts linked to various periods of history and again provided by SWGfL
- ArtisanCam – video and interactive activities providing an insight into the lives of artists and provided by CLEO
- Myths and Legends – provides the opportunity for learners to read, listen to, watch and create stories using text, images, sound and video
- Cookit! – simple way for pupils and teachers to share recipes and ideas for healthy eating provided by E2BN

We hope you will take advantage of these free high quality resources and suggest you give teachers the opportunity to look at some of these and link them in to their teaching to support their professional development. **We particularly recommend use of the Gallery to improve pupil safety as some schools have experienced e-safety issues with using other search engines for this purpose.**

I have you find these resources useful and will disseminate them to staff so that you can get the full benefits from your membership of the SWGfL.

Yours sincerely



Jo Briscoombe
ICT Strategy Adviser

Enclosures: SW-ITched On Newsletter, Making the Most of ULearn, The National Education Network